

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method of forming flame-retardant nonwoven fabrics by  
hydroentanglement includes providing a precursor web. The precursor web is  
subjected to hydroentanglement on a three-dimensional image transfer device  
to create a patterned and imaged fabric. Treatment with a flame-retardant  
binder enhances the integrity of the fabric, permitting the nonwoven to exhibit  
desired physical characteristics, including strength, durability, softness, and  
drapeability. The treated nonwoven may then be dyed by means applicable to  
conventional wovens.

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